legal aid programmes such as promotion of legal literacy, setting up of legal aid clinics in universities and law colleges, training of para-legals, and holding of legal aid camps and Lok Adalats. The National Legal Services Authority is also formulating policies and schemes to achieve the aims and objects of the Act.

Contesting of elections by candidates with criminal records

2968. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates denied permission to fight Assembly elections held in May, 2001 on the ground of their conviction by the Court;

(b) the number of candidates against whom criminal cases were pending and who were allowed to contest the recent election;

(c) whether it is a fact that a candidate who had not been allowed to contest the Assembly election on the ground of his conviction by the Court was appointed as Chief Minister; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction to this appointment?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Commission to review constitution

2969. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission to review the working of the Constitution has given radical proposals for discussion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution has so far released 13 Consultation Papers and Questionnaires to the public and other concerned to elicit their responses. A list of these papers is given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) The Commission is yet to submit its report to the Government. The

Government would examine the report of the Commission as and when the same is received.

Statement

List of Consultation Papers released by the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution

1. All India Judicial Service
2. Immunity of Legislators—What do the words 'in respect of anything said or any vote given by him' in article 105(2) signify?
3. Treaty-making power under the Constitution
4. Liability of the State in Tort and Sovereign immunity
5. Review of the Working of the Political Parties specially in relation to Elections and Reform Options
6. Review of Election Law, Processes and Reform Options
7. Efficacy of Public Audit System in India: C&AG-Reforming the Institution
8. Pace of Socio-Economic Changes under the Constitution
9. The Institution of Governor under the Constitution
10. Article 356 of the Constitution
11. Enlargement of Fundamental Rights
12. Constitutional Mechanisms for Settlement of Inter-State Disputes
13. Effectuation of Fundamental Duties

Seminar on Working of Judicial system at Shimla

2970. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the last week of June, 2001, he inaugurated and addressed a seminar at Shimla on "Working of judicial system in the post-independence era and challenges before it', organized by Bar Council of India;

(b) if so, the details of participants, subject-discussed and recommendations made at the seminar; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto particularly with regard to bringing down litigation and appointment of National Judicial Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir